

FEDERATION OF EAST AFRICAN FREIGHT FORWARDERS ASSOCIATIONS

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An advocate of the freight logistics profession

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Grantee: FEAFFA

Report for the month of: July 2012

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Activity	Comment
Staff recruitment	The Transport Researcher Officer Mr. Daniel Mbilinyi reported for duty at the start of July 2012. He is expected to lead the Federation's knowledge management area.
Organize the Training subcommittee meeting	The training subcommittee held its first meeting at Sarova Whitesands Hotel – Mombasa on 4 th July 2012. The committee is constituted of training focal persons in all the national associations. The committee made vital recommendations relating to professionalizing the freight logistics sector through training among others fast tracking the idea of establishing a registration board of freight forwarders in the region. Other recommendations related to the East Africa Customs and Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate training program and the road map for the Certificate of Competence.

Coordinate the EAFPPC training program	The federation continued the coordination of the EACFFPC program across the region. In July, more expanded classes started with a total of 208 students in Kenya and 55 in Rwanda. The total number of students in class in all countries now stands at 595. They are expected to finish the course in December 2012.
Hold the Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC) meeting	The CIC held its meeting to validate the revised EACFFPC curriculum at Sarova Whitesands Hotel – Mombasa on 5 th -6 th July 2012. The meeting adopted the curriculum with recommendations for improvement in some areas of the revised curriculum. The meeting also reviewed the EACFFPC implementation plan and sustainability strategy. The EAC Directorate of Customs participated in the meeting.
To develop handbooks for the organizational policy manuals	The Secretariat is developing a popular version of all its policy manuals. The drafts have been presented in the Federation's staff meetings and will soon be adopted for consolidation into one handbook.
To procure office equipment and services	The secretariat received and set up its new furniture. All members of staff are now comfortably settled with an additional reserve seat for short term members like the Regional Training Coordinator, interns and consultants. A Purchase order for the new members of staff health cover was submitted to Resolution Health East Africa. Other items being procured are one laptop, an external hard drive, accounting software and Ms windows software.
To publish the first EAST AFRICAN freight forwarders directory	FEAFFA is in the final stages of engaging Efan Communications the company expected to work on the next directory. A draft contract has been shared with the company. Work is expected to commence in August 2012. Efan Communications also publishes the Transporter, a publication of the Kenya Transporters Association.
To popularize the FEAFFA Code of Conduct	FEAFFA organized a half day seminar aimed at raising awareness on the Code of Conduct among the clearing agents on 12 th July 2012. Over 60 participants attended the seminar with more than 50 being clearing and forwarding agents. The seminar was part of the border assessment activities by USAID COMPETE.

<p>Develop three position papers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Customs Warehouse rent ii. Mutual recognition of Customs agent licenses iii. Self regulation of Customs agents 	<p>The consultants to conduct the studies were contracted by USAID COMPETE and are expected to have started work. The consultants are yet to meet FEAFFA.</p> <p>FEAFFA would appreciate accompanying the consultants as understudy and also to strengthen ownership of the final products.</p>
<p>Develop border clearance manuals for the key borders in the EAC Region.</p>	<p>This activity is in progress. The consultant was introduced to FEAFFA and is already visiting the borders for the required data.</p> <p>FEAFFA would appreciate accompanying the consultants as understudy and to also strengthen ownership of the final products.</p>
<p>Develop standard trading conditions for freight forwarders</p>	<p>A consultant to review the existing draft has been contracted and is already doing the work.</p>
<p>Conduct an audit of the FEAFFA portal</p>	<p>The secretariat started the regional audit of its e regulations portal with a visit to Mombasa. The exercise intends to identify the challenges that clearing and forwarding agents are finding in using the FEAFFA e portal with a view to improving it. From the exercise, the Federation will have a list of priority products that should be added on the portal. The exercise will continue to the rest of the EAC countries</p>
<p>Participate in other partners events.</p>	<p>FEAFFA participated in number of partner organized events relevant to the mission of the Federation during the month. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The needs training assessment meeting for transporters by Trademark East Africa. - The launch of East African logistics performance index by Kenya Shippers Council. - Workshop on the assessment of the Impact of the proposed establishment of a Tripartite Free Trade Area between COMESA, EAC and SADC. - The Border assessment by USAID COMPETE.